

102 IRP#8 Alice Walker's "Everyday Use" (486-491)

1. This story is partly about a culture-clash: a daughter returns to her family, still living in its traditional way, but she has picked up a new set of cultural values. Describe some of the ways in which this clash of cultures puts these characters at odds with each other.
2. Walker's story is concerned with race (in a sense, about two different ways of "being Black"), but perhaps socio-economic class is really more important to the story. What does the conflict over certain objects being put to 'everyday use' have to do with class in this story?
3. Optional bonus question: View the short film version of "Everyday Use" [if you Google film + "Everyday Use" it will show as a 25 minute Youtube video. Write a 1-paragraph evaluation of the film's success or failure at being a faithful adaptation of the story.

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